

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 001245  
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCSE-00 L-03 H-02 DHA-02 /017 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:DGBROWN:BDS

APPROVED BY EA/ROC:DGBROWN

SCA/SCS - J. KOMITOR

-----042315Z 072475 /63

P 042232Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (HONACK, MICHAEL HENRY)

SUBJECT: TRIAL OF MICHAEL HONACK

REF: TAIPEI 8501

1. HONACK'S FATHER AND DEPARTMENT (EA/ROC-LEVIN) HAVE EACH RECEIVED LONG LETTER FROM MICHAEL HONACK. FATHER IS EXTREMELY CONCERNED BECAUSE IN THIS MOST RECENT LETTER, WRITTEN ON CHRISTMAS DAY, MICHAEL APPEARS MORE DESPONDENT THAN AT ANY TIME PREVIOUSLY. (TEXT OF LETTER TO LEVIN BEING POUCED EMBASSY.) AS MICHAEL APPEARS PARTICULARLY DESPONDENT AT THIS TIME, DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF HOW HE IS HOLDING UP UNDER THE STRAIN OF HIS LONGER AND INDEFINITE CONFINEMENT.

2. IN BOTH THESE LETTERS, MICHAEL EXPRESSES DOUBT THAT HIS LETTERS ARE BEING TRANSMITTED BY CHINESE AUTHORITIES. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM MICHAEL THAT THESE TWO LETTERS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED PROMPTLY. PLEASE ALSO INFORM MICHAEL, WHO HAS ASKED, THAT LEVIN HAS NOT RPT NOT WRITTEN TO HIM

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DIRECTLY BUT HAS BEEN IN REGULAR CONTACT WITH HIS FATHER. (YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IN LETTER TO HIS FATHER, MICHAEL ALSO EXPRESSED DOUBTS THAT EMBASSY WAS ADEQUATELY REPRESENTING HIS INTERESTS OR THAT DEPARTMENT/EMBASSY WERE

ACCURATELY DESCRIBING HIS PLIGHT TO HIS FATHER. WE HAVE REASSURED FATHER ON THESE POINTS, AND HE SEEMS CONFIDENT

IN EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT.)

3. IN LETTER TO FATHER, MICHAEL STATES THAT HE HAS NO MONEY "EVEN TO BUY STAMPS." FATHER HAS TOLD DEPARTMENT THAT HE WISHES TO CHANGE ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE DOL 500 TRUST FUND HE ESTABLISHED IN TAIPEI SO THAT FUNDS MAY NOW BE USED "FOR MY SON'S PERSONAL NEEDS AND/OR LEGAL FEES AS NECESSARY." FATHER ASKS THAT EMBASSY PROVIDE MICHAEL WITH DOL 25 (OR WHATEVER SUM MICHAEL REQUESTS) FROM THIS FUND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ADDITIONAL FUNDS MAY BE PROVIDED AS REQUESTED BY MICHAEL. PLEASE INFORM DEPARTMENT WHEN FUND NEARS DEPLETION.

4. HAVING ESTABLISHED TRUST FUND ORIGINALLY FOR PURPOSE OF PAYING ATTORNEY'S LEGAL FEES, FATHER IS NOW PERPLEXED TO LEARN THAT ATTORNEY NO LONGER WISHES TO ACCEPT FEES FOR HIS SERVICES (REFTEL). WOULD APPRECIATE ANY EXPLANATION EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE.

5. FATHER HAS NOT YET RECEIVED LETTER WHICH EMBASSY SENT TO HIM ON DECEMBER 23 (REFTEL). PLEASE CABLE TEXT OF LETTER TO DEPARTMENT SO THAT WE MAY RELAY IT TO FATHER EXPEDITIOUSLY.

6. MICHAEL'S LETTER TO HIS FATHER AGAIN REFERS TO A DATE HAVING BEEN SET FOR TRIAL'S RESUMPTION -- THIS TIME JANUARY 1. MR. HONACK WOULD APPRECIATE ANY EXPLANATION EMBASSY MAY HAVE ON WHAT MICHAEL IS BEING TOLD ABOUT THE RESUMPTION OF HIS TRIAL.

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**TAGS:** CASC, (HONACK, MICHAEL HENRY)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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